Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 035067

66
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /063 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:HFMATTHEWS
APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON
S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH
NEA/P - MR. BERRY
---------- 059061
O 122223Z PEB 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 035067

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, US, NASSER, GAMAL ABDEL

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT OF ALLEGED CIA PLOT AGAINST NASSER

1. WASHINGTON POST FEB 12 CARRIES STORY HEADLINED
"CIA PLOT ON NASSER REPORTED" (TEXT BELOW) CONCERNING
ARTICLE IN NEWSWORKS BY JOHN MARKS ABOUT ALLEGED PLOT TO
ASSASSINATE NASSER. STORY INCLUDES QUOTATION OF CIA
STATEMENT TO CHURCH COMMITTEE DENYING THESE ALLEGATIONS.
MARKS ARTICLE ALLEGES NO CIA RECORDS ON PLOT EXIST BECAUSE
THEY WERE DESTROYED, AND GUIDANCE BELOW IS DESIGNED TO DENY
THIS ALLEGATION AS WELL.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 035067

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

2. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPT SPOKESMAN ON IF ASKED BASIS:" I HAVE BEEN ASSURED BY THE CIA THAT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE QUOTATION ATTRIBUTED TO THE AGENCY IN THE ARTICLE IS CORRECT; NO TEAMS OR INDIVIDUALS HAVE EVER BEEN SENT TO EGYPT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ATTEMPTING TO ASSASSINATE NASSER." POSTS MAY USE THIS GUIDANCE AS NECESSARY. TEXT OF POST ARTICLE FOLLOWS.

3. BEGIN TEXT:

THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY PLOTTED TO KILL EGYPT'S FORMER PRESIDENT, GAMEL ABDUL NASSER, IN THE LATE 1950'S

BUT DID NOT TELL THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE ABOUT THE PLANS, IT WAS REPORTED YESTERDAY.

JOHN MARKS, WRITING IN THE FIRST ISSUE OF WASHINGTON NEWSWORKS, A NEW SO-CALLED ALTERNATIVE NEWSPAPER, SAID THE SENATE COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY SEN. FRANK CHURCH (D-IDAHO) ASKED THE CIA FOR INFORMATION ABOUT PLOTS AGAINST NASSER AND WAS TOLD: "THIS AGENCY HAS NO RECORDS THAT ANY TEAMS OR INDIVIDUALS HAVE EVER BEEN SENT TO EGYPT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ATTEMPTING TO ASSASSINATE NASSER."

MARKS QUOTED A RETIRED CIA EMPLOYEE WITH DIRECT KNOW-LEDGE OF THE EPISODE AS SAYING THAT THE CIA WAS FURIOUS WITH NASSER FOR DRIFTING TOWARD THE SOVIET CAMP DESPITE HAVING RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE AID FROM THE UNITED STATES.

CIA MEN HAD A PARTICULAR GRUDGE, THIS SOURCE SAID, BECAUSE THEY HAD SPENT TIME AND MONEY HELPING TRAIN AND ADVISE NASSER'S INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

MARKS QUOTED THE FORMER CIA EMPLOYEE AS SAYING THAT THERE WAS AN ADMINISTRATION POLICY MEETING AT WHICH THEN-SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN FOSTER DULLES COMPLAINED ABOUT THE PROBLEMS NASSER WAS CAUSING FOR U.S. POLICY.

HIS BROTHER, CIA DIRECTOR ALLEN DULLES, ASKED IF THERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 035067

WERE ANYTHING THE CIA SHOULD DO. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT IT SHOULD "ELIMINATE THAT PROBLEM."

THREE ARAB ASSASSINATION TEAMS WERE FIELDED, MARKS REPORTED. ONE NEVER GOT OFF THE GROUND; THE SECOND WAS PICKED UP CROSSING THE BORDER AND THE THIRD GOT LOST.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

MONTHS PASSED, AND THEN, AT ANOTHER POLICY MEETING, ALLEN DULLES MENTIONED THE ASSASSINATION PLANS AND THE MEETING "WENT INTO A TURMOIL," ACCORDING TO THE RETIRED CIA EMPLOYEE.

"...THE WORD WENT OUT TO STOP THE (EFFORT)...IT WAS A LEGITIMATE MISINTERPRETATION," HE SAID.

MARKS IS CO-AUTHOR OF "THE CIA AND THE CULT OF INTELLIGENCE." END TEXT. KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLEGATIONS, ASSASSINATION, PRESIDENT, PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE035067
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HFMATTHEWS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760054-0444
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760297/aaaagewn.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 FEB 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 970922
Subject: PRESS REPORT OF ALLEGED CIA PLOT AGAINST NASSER
TAGS: PFOR, EG, US, CIA, PFOR, WASHINGTON POST, (NASSER, GAMAL ABDEL)
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006